a Task Force on 'Human Resource Development in Information Technology' with the main objective to prepare a long-term strategy for significantly increasing the number of well trained IT professionals in line with economic projections. The Task Force had noted that the issue of manpower gap is not as much about the institutional seat availability as about the nature of skills and training provided in these institutions. The follow-up include, DIT initiating measures to generate manpower in key verticals like bioinformatics, VLSI Design and Information Security; NASSCOM launching a pilot phase of NAC programme-NASSCOM's Assessment of Competence to help the ITeS-BPO industry; and ITeS-BPO course implemented by DOEACC Society in North East and Jammu & Kashmir to enhance the skills of youth for employment in ITeS-BPO sector.

In addition, initiatives by AICTE include, effective Industry-Institute interactions through collaborative projects with the Industry Association, revision of curriculum so as to meet the necessary requirement and Faculty Development Activities to ensure quality and industry relevance, etc.

The initiatives taken by University Grants Commission (UGC) include Digital Repository of Research and Training material, internet connectivity for universities, information communication and computer education, Teaching innovations in various disciplines and career-oriented education programmes.

Institutes of Information Technology have been set up by the Government of India, by the State Governments and also in the private sector to provide qualified IT-related manpower to the Industry.

Regulation on access deficit charge

2114. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Telecom Regulator to issue regulation on Access Deficit Charge (ADC) to the Cellular Operators at the earliest while Cellular Operators Association of India have sought

more time to send their comments on the various consultation papers issued by the TRAI in the last few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take to remove the impasse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has issued revised regulation on ADC on 23.2.2006 to be effective from 01.03.2006 and applicable to Cellular, Basic, Unified Access Services, National Long Distance and International Long Distance Operators.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Merger of circles of BSNL

2115. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of merger of circles by BSNL;

(b) whether the merger of circles is in line with the concept of a National Flat Rate for mobile and fixed landline calls;

(c) whether it is a fact that the concept of 'One India' which was to be started from January 26, 2006 has been postponed due to some technical problems;

(d) if so, the details of problems faced by his Ministry and by when the problems would be sorted out and 'One India' concept is going to be started;

(e) whether any players, private or otherwise, are opposing 'One India' concept; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?